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## U.S. employers ratchet up the pressure on the unvaccinated

By ALEXANDRA OLSON  
AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Employers are losing patience with unvaccinated workers. For months, most employers relied on information campaigns, bonuses and other incentives to encourage their workforces to get the COVID-19 shot. Now, a growing number are imposing rules to make it more onerous for employees to refuse, from outright mandates to requiring the unvaccinated to undergo regular testing. Among employers getting tougher are the federal government, the state governments of California and New York, tech giants Google and Facebook, the Walt Disney Co. and the NFL. Some hospitals, universities, restaurants, bars

and other entertainment venues have also started requiring vaccines. But the new measures are unlikely to affect many of the millions of unvaccinated Americans. Many of the companies that are requiring shots have mostly office workers who are already largely vaccinated and are reluctant to work alongside those who aren't. In contrast, major companies that rely on low-income blue-collar workers — food manufacturers, warehouses, supermarkets and other store chains — are shying away from mandates for fear of driving away employees and worsening the labor shortages such businesses are facing.

Continued on next page



A proof of vaccination sign is posted at a bar in San Francisco on Thursday, July 29, 2021.

Associated Press

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**Continued from Front**

Tyson Foods, for instance, said about half of its U.S. workforce — 56,000 employees — has received shots after the meat and poultry processor hosted more than 100 vaccination events since February. But the company said it has no plans to impose a mandate to reach the other half.

Walmart and Amazon, the country's two largest private employers, have also declined to require its hourly workers to get vaccinated, continuing to rely on strategies such as bonuses and onsite access to shots. But in a potentially powerful signal, Walmart said employees at its headquarters will be required to get vaccinated by Oct. 4.

The biggest precedent so far has come from the federal government, the nation's largest employer. President Joe Biden announced last week that all federal employees and contractors must get vaccinated or put up with weekly testing and lose privileges such as official travel.

The federal government has said it will cover the costs of the weekly tests. As for other employers, insurance may pay for such testing at some workplaces but not others.

Biden's decision could embolden other employers by signaling they would be on solid legal ground to impose similar rules, said Brian Kropp, chief of research at consulting firm Gartner's human resources practice. But Kropp said some companies face complicated considerations that go be-



**A proof of vaccination sign is posted at a bar in San Francisco on Thursday, July 29, 2021.**

**Associated Press**

yond legalities, including deep resistance to vaccines in many states where they operate.

Retailers like Walmart might have a hard time justifying vaccine requirements for their workers while allowing shoppers to remain unvaccinated, Kropp added. Stores have mostly avoided vaccine requirements for customers for fear of alienating them and because of the difficulty in trying to verify their status.

In surveys by Gartner, fewer than 10% of employers have said they intend to require all employees to be vaccinated.

But a shift is building amid frustration over plateau-

ing vaccination rates and alarm over the spread of the more contagious delta variant.

On Monday, the U.S. finally reached Biden's goal of dispensing at least one shot to 70% of American adults — but a month late and amid a fierce surge that is driving hospital caseloads in some places to their highest levels since the outbreak began.

The president had hoped to reach his target by the Fourth of July.

The Union Square Hospitality Group, a group of New York City restaurants and bars founded by Danny Meyer, is now requiring employees and customers to

be vaccinated by Sept. 7.

The San Francisco Bar Owner Alliance, a group of about 300 bars, made a similar decision following a meeting where "the thing that stood out was anger and frustration" toward vaccine holdouts, said founder Ben Bleiman.

While some companies fear vaccine mandates will drive workers away, the pandemic itself is also causing absenteeism. Bleiman said he recently had to close his bar for a night after his bartender, who was fully vaccinated, tested positive and a replacement couldn't be found.

Some employers are concluding that requiring vaccines is simpler than trying to come up with different rules on masks and social distancing for the small number of unvaccinated employees.

BlackRock, the global investment manager, is allowing only vaccinated workers into its U.S. offices

for now and said people will be free to go maskless, as local health guidelines allow, and sit next to each other and congregate without restrictions. The firm said 85% of its U.S. employees are vaccinated or in the process of getting shots.

Matthew Putman, CEO of New York-based high-tech manufacturing hub Nantronics, said he agonized over his decision to impose a vaccine mandate on his more than 100 employees. As it turned out, nearly all of them were already vaccinated, though he dreads the prospect of having to fire any holdouts.

"I hate the thought. But if it has to happen it has to happen," Putman said. "I lost a ton of sleep over this but not as much sleep as I've lost over the fear of infection."

Other mandates could provide a clearer test of the potential for employee backlash.

Hospitals and nursing home chains, for instance, are increasingly requiring the vaccine. So far, such mandates have survived legal challenges. More than 150 employees at a Houston hospital system who refused to get the COVID-19 shot were fired or resigned after a judge dismissed an employee lawsuit over the requirement.

Atria Senior Living, which operates more than 200 senior living communities across the country, was among the first to mandate vaccines for its staff in January.

It worked. Nearly 99% of Atria's 10,000 employees are vaccinated, and only a tiny fraction quit over the requirement, said CEO and Chairman John Moore.

"Our residents deserve to live in a vaccinated environment. Our staff deserves to work in a vaccinated environment," Moore said. □

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# CDC can't stop evictions, as Biden calls on states to act

By LISA MASCARO and JOSH BOAK

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The White House said Monday that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was "unable to find legal authority for a new, targeted eviction moratorium" and asked that states and local governments put in policies to keep renters in their homes.

Mass evictions could potentially worsen the recent spread of the COVID-19 delta variant as roughly 1.4 million households told the Census Bureau they could "very likely" be evicted from their rentals in the next two months. Another 2.2 million say they're "somewhat likely" to be evicted. The prospect of mass evictions has led to criticism that the Biden administration was slow to address the end of the moratorium, which expired over the weekend.

But the White House says it lacks the authority to extend a national moratorium. That's largely because the Supreme Court signaled in a 5-4 vote in late June that it wouldn't back further extensions, with Justice Brett Kavanaugh writing that Congress would have to act to extend the moratorium. The White House noted that state-level



**Gene Sperling, who leads the oversight for distributing funds from President Joe Biden's \$1.9 trillion coronavirus rescue package, speaks during the daily briefing at the White House in Washington, Monday, Aug. 2, 2021.**

Associated Press

efforts to stop evictions would spare a third of the country from evictions over the next month.

The Biden administration emphasized in a statement that \$46.5 billion has been provided to keep renters in their homes, but "too many states and cities have been too slow to act." It's still investigating any additional legal options to forestall the evictions, but Gene Sperling, who oversees the coronavirus relief plans, put the burden on states and

local governments to get out federal aid and stop evictions.

"The president is clear: If some states and localities can get this out efficiently and effectively there's no reason every state and locality can't," Sperling told reporters at Monday's White House briefing. "There is simply no excuse, no place to hide for any state or locality that is failing to accelerate their emergency" rental assistance.

Sperling said the admin-

istration will keep looking for additional legal avenues to keep people in their homes. Yet he also stressed the complexity of the problem by also saying that the Trump administration developed guidelines for providing aid to renters and landlords that were unworkable. Those guidelines which required extensive documentation were changed once Biden was in office.

"This is not an easy task," Sperling said. "We as a

country have never had a national infrastructure or national policy for preventing avoidable evictions."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Monday it's "unfathomable" that Americans will be ousted from their homes during the COVID-19 crisis, and backed by the Congressional Black Caucus intensified pressure on the Biden administration to immediately extend the nation's eviction moratorium.

Pelosi and the Democratic leadership has called it a "moral imperative" to reinstate the eviction ban as some people were at risk of losing their homes as soon as Monday. They called on President Joe Biden's administration to extend the moratorium through Oct. 18.

"It is unfathomable that we would not act to prevent people from being evicted," Pelosi wrote in a letter to colleagues, later saying that she welcomed the administration's urging of states and cities to impose their own moratoriums.

Pelosi said Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen would hold a virtual briefing Tuesday with lawmakers as they push to more quickly ensure the states distribute the federal aid. □

# Advocates end settlement talks with US over asylum curbs

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The American Civil Liberties Union and other advocacy groups said Monday that they were ending settlement talks with the Biden administration over their demand to lift a pandemic-related ban on families seeking asylum in the United States.

The impasse resumes a legal battle before U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan in Washington over emergency powers to expel migrants without a chance to seek asylum on grounds it prevents spread of the coronavirus. Under Title 42 authority, named for a 1944 public health law, the administration has banned many families and nearly

all single adults from seeking asylum. Unaccompanied children have been exempted.

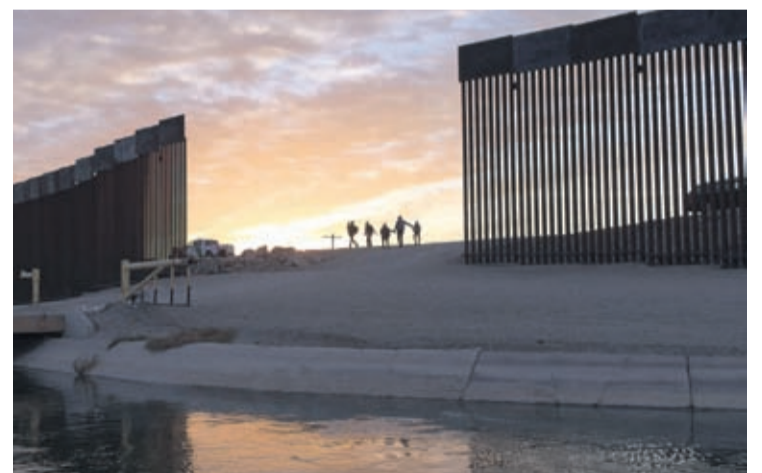
"We are deeply disappointed that the Biden administration has abandoned its promise of fair and humane treatment for families seeking safety, leaving us no choice but to resume litigation," said Neela Chakravartula, managing attorney for the Center for Gender & Refugee Studies. Since late March, the ACLU has been working with advocates across the border to submit names of particularly vulnerable migrants stuck in Mexico to U.S. authorities, allowing them in the United States to seek asylum. ACLU attorney Lee

Gelernt said the exemptions will continue another week.

"Seven months of waiting for the Biden administration to end Title 42 is more than enough," Gelernt said.

The Homeland Security and Justice departments did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The breakdown reflects growing tensions between immigrant advocates and the administration over use of Title 42 authority and the government's decision last week to resume fast-track deportation flights for families to Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

Last week, the International Rescue Committee said they were ending efforts



**In this Thursday, June 10, 2021, file photo, a pair of migrant families from Brazil pass through a gap in the border wall to reach the United States after crossing from Mexico to Yuma, Ariz., to seek asylum.**

Associated Press

to help the administration exempt asylum-seekers from the pandemic-related ban. The groups had been

working on a parallel track with the ACLU to identify particularly vulnerable migrants stuck in Mexico. □

# U.S. hits 70% vaccination rate -- a month late, amid a surge

By **MIKE CATALINI**  
Associated Press

The U.S. on Monday finally reached President Joe Biden's goal of getting at least one COVID-19 shot in the arms of 70% of American adults -- a month late and amid a fierce surge by the delta variant that is swamping hospitals and leading to new mask rules and mandatory vaccinations around the country.

Louisiana ordered nearly everyone, vaccinated or not, to wear masks again in all indoor public settings, including schools and colleges, and other cities and states likewise moved to reinstate precautions to counter a crisis blamed on the fast-spreading variant and stubborn resistance to getting the vaccine.

"As fast as we are opening up units, they're being filled with COVID patients," lamented Dr. Sergio Segarra, chief medical officer of Baptist Hospital Miami, where the Florida chain reported an increase of well over 140% in the past two weeks in the number of people now hospitalized with the virus. "As quickly as we can discharge them they're coming in and they're coming in very sick. We started seeing entire families come down."

Biden had set a goal of reaching the 70% threshold



**Hindy Bogner Orenstein, a nurse from Maryland chats with Bren Ingle, a nurse from Chattanooga, Tenn., as nearly three dozen healthcare workers from around the country arrive to help supplement the staff at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center in Baton Rouge, Monday, Aug. 2, 2021.**

Associated Press

by the Fourth of July. But that target was set well before the highly contagious delta variant enabled the virus to come storming back and undermined the assumptions that were used to arrive at that figure. There was no celebration at the White House on Monday, nor a setting of a new target, as the administration instead struggles to overcome public resistance.

The 70% target marked the low-end of initial govern-

ment estimates for what would be necessary to achieve herd immunity in the U.S. That has been rendered insufficient by the delta variant.

The U.S. still has not hit the administration's other goal of fully vaccinating 165 million American adults by July 4. It is about 8.5 million short.

New cases per day in the U.S. have increased sixfold over the past month to an average of nearly 80,000, a level not seen since mid-

February. And deaths per day have climbed over the past two weeks from an average of 259 to 360. Those are still well below the 3,400 deaths and a quarter-million cases per day seen during the worst of the outbreak, in January.

Some places around the country are seeing newly confirmed infections and hospital caseloads reach their highest levels since the pandemic began a year and a half ago. Nearly all deaths and serious illnesses

now are in unvaccinated people.

The surge has led states and cities across the U.S. to beat a retreat, just weeks after it looked as if the country was going to see a close-to-normal summer.

Health officials in San Francisco and six other Bay Area counties announced Monday they are reinstating a requirement that everyone — vaccinated or not — wear masks in public indoor spaces.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said New York City airport and transit workers will have to get vaccinated or face weekly testing. He stopped short of mandating either masks or inoculations for the general public, saying he lacks legal authority to do so.

Denver's mayor said the city will require police officers, firefighters and certain other municipal employees to get vaccinated, along with workers at schools, nursing homes, hospitals and jails.

Minnesota's public colleges and universities will require masks while indoors on campus, regardless of vaccination status. And New Jersey said workers at state-run nursing homes, psychiatric hospitals and other such institutions must get the shot or face regular testing. □

# Ding! Ding! San Francisco's cable cars are running again



**Mayor London Breed welcomes people to return of the cable car service during a ceremony at the Powell Street turnaround plaza in San Francisco on Monday, Aug. 2, 2021.**

Associated Press

By **OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ**  
**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Ding! Ding! San Francisco's

iconic cable cars were chiming their bells and rolling again on the city's hills

Monday after being sidelined for 16 months by the pandemic.

At Powell and Market, one of the cable car's stops, a line of people snaked around a cable car turntable waiting to ride a car to Ghirardelli Square or Fisherman's Wharf.

"Our cable cars are part of what makes San Francisco a world-class destination, and their return is just the latest sign that our city is bouncing back," said San Francisco Mayor London Breed.

Breed said it will be free to ride the cable cars in August and asked people to be patient because the service won't follow a regu-

lar schedule until September when the historic trolleys will resume full service in all three lines and start charging a riding fee.

Frank Miller, of San Antonio, said he and six members of his family arrived in San Francisco last week and have already visited some of the city's top landmarks. They rode a ferry to Angel Island and visited Pier 39 and Fisherman's Wharf but Miller said riding the cable cars was a highlight for him. "I grew up watching 'Full House' so, everybody knows the cable cars. We definitely want to ride the trolley cars through the city," said Miller, 40, who was waiting with his family

to ride from Powell Street and Market to Fisherman's Wharf.

Before the pandemic, 25 million tourists visited San Francisco annually, with many of them riding the cable cars that are as synonymous with the city as Alcatraz Island and the Golden Gate Bridge.

About 17,000 riders packed onto the cable cars daily before they were parked in March 2020 as the city locked down and sheltered in place. It was the longest shutdown since the 1980s, when the system was fully reconstructed, according to the San Francisco Metropolitan Transportation Agency. □

# In heat emergency, southern Europe scrambles for resources

By DEREK GATOPOULOS, MEHMET GUZEL and COLLEEN BARRY

**ATHENS, Greece (AP)** — A heat wave baking south-east Europe has fueled deadly wildfires in Turkey and threatened the national power grid in Greece as governments scrambled Monday to secure the resources needed to cope with the emergency.

Temperatures reached 45 C (113 F) in inland areas of Greece and nearby countries and are expected to remain high for most of the week.

Battling deadly wildfires along its coastline for a sixth day, Turkey broadened an appeal for international assistance and was promised water-dropping planes from the European Union. The fires have been blamed for the deaths of eight people in recent days.

The help for residents in Turkey's fire-ravaged areas couldn't come soon enough. At the coastal village of Bozalan, resident Esra Sanli looked over at the blaze.

"It's burning. It's obviously burning. There's no plane, there's no helicopter, there are no (access) roads," she said, sobbing. "How is this going to be extinguished? How?"



A man walks away with his cows from an advancing fire in Cokertme village, in Bodrum, Mugla, Turkey, Monday, Aug. 2, 2021.

Associated Press

In Greece, an emergency was declared in fire-hit areas on the island of Rhodes, which is near the Turkish coast. Workers with health conditions were allowed to take time off work, while Greek coal-fired power stations slated for retirement were brought back into service to shore up the national grid, under pressure due to the widespread use of air conditioning.

Pregnant and other vulnerable workers in North

Macedonia were told to stay home.

Dann Mitchell, a professor of climate science at the University of Bristol, said this heat wave in southeast Europe "is not at all unexpected, and very likely enhanced due to human-induced climate change."

"The number of extreme heat events around the world is increasing year on year, with the top 10 hottest years on record all occurring since 2005," Mitchell

told The Associated Press.

"This year, we have seen a number of significant events, including a particularly dramatic heat wave in western Canada and the U.S., that was extreme even for current levels of climate change," Mitchell said. "These black swan events have always happened, but now they sit on the background of a hotter climate, so are even more deadly."

As hot weather edged

southward, Italy and Croatia were experiencing storms as well as wildfires. A small tornado in Istria, on Croatia's northern Adriatic coast, toppled trees that destroyed several cars, hours before a large wildfire erupted outside the nearby resort of Trogir, threatening homes and the local power supply. Some 30 people were treated for light smoke inhalation in Italy's coastal city of Pescara after flames tore through a nearby pine forest. Beach-goers nearby had to be rescued by sea Sunday from that wildfire.

"That zone of pine forest is a nature reserve, and it's completely destroyed. It brings tears to see it. The environmental damage is incalculable. This is the heart of the city, its green lung and today it is destroyed," Pescara Mayor Carlo Masci said.

Cyprus, recovering from a major wildfire last month, kept water-dropping planes on patrol to respond to fires as they broke out.

"If you don't react right away with a massive response to any outbreak, things can turn difficult quickly," forestry service chief Charalambos Alexandrou told state-run media. "The conditions are warlike." □

# Belarus sends reporter to prison over deleted chat messages

By YURAS KARMANAU

Associated Press

**KYIV, Ukraine (AP)** — A court in Belarus convicted a journalist of insulting the president in messages in a deleted chat group and sentenced him to 1 1/2 years in prison, the Belarusian Association of Journalists said Monday.

The verdict in the case against Siarhei Hardziyevich, 50, comes as part of a massive crackdown that Belarusian authorities have unleashed on independent media and human rights activists.

Hardziyevich on Monday was found guilty of insulting the president and slandering police officers, according to the association.

The court sentenced him to

a prison term and a \$1,600 fine. The charges against the journalist from Drachichyn, a city 300 kilometers (185 miles) southwest of Belarus' capital of Minsk, were brought over messages in a chat group on the messaging app Viber which was deleted last year.

Hardziyevich, who worked for a popular regional news outlet, The First Region, has maintained his innocence. His defense team demanded the charges be dropped due to a lack of evidence and because the crime was impossible to establish.

"I have nothing to do with these crimes, I don't consider myself guilty," Hardziyevich said in his address to the court before the ver-

dict.

The Viasna human rights center declared Hardziyevich a political prisoner.

Belarusian authorities have ramped up the pressure against non-governmental organizations and independent media in recent weeks, conducting more than 200 raids of offices and apartments of activists and journalists in July alone, according to Viasna.

Authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko has vowed to continue what he called a "mopping-up operation" against civil society activists whom he has denounced as "bandits and foreign agents."

Lukashenko faced months of protests triggered by his being awarded a sixth term

in an August 2020 vote that the opposition and the West saw as rigged.

He responded to demonstrations with a massive crackdown that saw more

than 35,000 people arrested and thousands beaten by police. A total of 29 Belarusian journalists remain in custody either awaiting trial or serving their sentences. □



This handout undated photo provided by Belarusian Human Rights Center "Viasna", shows Belarusian journalist Siarhei Hardziyevich sitting in a court room in Minsk, Belarus.

Associated Press

# ASEAN diplomats discussing crisis envoy, aid to Myanmar

By **JIM GOMEZ**

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**

— Southeast Asia's top diplomats were meeting Monday to appoint a special envoy to help deal with the political crisis and violence gripping Myanmar and finalize an emergency plan to help control a coronavirus outbreak that many fear is spiraling out of control in the military-ruled nation.

The foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations were also expected to announce after their video meeting some progress in four years of painstakingly slow negotiations with China to craft a nonaggression pact aimed at preventing conflict in the disputed South China Sea. The 10-nation bloc, frequently dismissed by critics as an ineffective talk shop, has been under increasing international pressure to act on the troubles unfolding in Myanmar, an ASEAN member where the military in February toppled the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi. The grouping, however, is hamstrung by its policy of noninterference in the domestic affairs of member nations as well as its requirement to



In this April 22, 2021, file photo, flags of some of the ASEAN member countries fly at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Associated Press

reach a consensus among members.

In Monday's online meeting the ministers were to decide who among at least three nominees from Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia should be designated as the bloc's special envoy to try to broker a settlement between the country's ruling generals and rival parties led by Suu Kyi, a Southeast Asian diplomat told the Associated

Press.

Myanmar prefers the candidate from Thailand, former Thai ambassador to Yangon Virasakdi Futrakul, but it remains uncertain when its military leaders would decide to accept the envoy and if access to Suu Kyi, who has been detained with other political leaders and put on trial for a slew of charges, would be granted, said the diplomat, who spoke on condi-

tion of anonymity because of lack of authority to discuss the issue publicly.

More than 900 people have been killed by Myanmar authorities since the February takeover, according to a tally kept by the independent Assistance Association for Political Prisoners. Casualties are also rising among the military and police as armed resistance grows in both urban and rural areas. ASEAN leaders met in the

Indonesian capital of Jakarta in April and called for an end to the violence and the start of a dialogue among contending parties to be mediated by an ASEAN envoy.

On Sunday, Myanmar's military leader Min Aung Hlaing repeated his pledge to hold fresh elections in two years and cooperate with ASEAN on finding a political solution. He said without elaborating that Myanmar "is ready to work on ASEAN cooperation within the ASEAN framework, including the dialogue with the ASEAN special envoy in Myanmar."

Myanmar's troubles have deepened with its worst surge of the pandemic, which has overwhelmed its crippled health care system. Limits on oxygen sales have led to widespread allegations that the military is directing supplies to government supporters and military-run hospitals.

In Monday's meeting, the ASEAN ministers were to look to finalize a plan to bring in medicine and medical equipment to Myanmar through the regional bloc's disaster-response center with the military leaders' approval. □

# Israeli court's compromise would avoid Palestinian evictions



Protesters hold signs during a hearing on the possible evictions of Palestinian from the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood of Jerusalem, outside the Supreme Court in Jerusalem, Monday, Aug. 2, 2021.

Associated Press

By **JACK JEFFERY**

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — Israel's Supreme Court on Monday floated a compromise that would prevent the evic-

tions of dozens of Palestinians in the east Jerusalem of Sheikh Jarrah, where attempts by Jewish settlers to expel them from their

homes helped spark an 11-day war between Israel and Gaza militants in May. The cases examined Monday involve four Palestinian families numbering a total of about 70 people.

Lower Israeli courts have approved the evictions of the four families. They ruled that their houses were built on land owned by Jews before Israel was established in 1948.

But weighing a last-ditch appeal from the residents, the court suggested a compromise that would give them "protected" status.

The deal would protect them from eviction for many years, but leave the question of legal ownership unanswered, said Ahmad Amara, a consultant to the residents' legal team.

He said the court gave the sides one week to respond. The Supreme Court had been scheduled to issue a ruling in May, but it delayed its decision after the attorney general requested more time to consider the cases.

The threatened evictions fueled protests and clashes in the run-up to the war and pose a test for Israel's new governing coalition, which includes three pro-settlement parties and a small Islamist faction. For the sake of unity, the government has tried to sideline Palestinian issues to avoid internal divisions.

Weeks of unrest highlighted by heavy-handed Israeli police tactics against residents and demonstrators who supported them captured international atten-

tion ahead of the 11-day Israel-Hamas war in May. A cease-fire took effect May 21, but the long-running campaign by Jewish settlers to evict dozens of Palestinian families has continued.

The settlers have been waging a decades-long campaign to evict the families from densely populated Palestinian neighborhoods just outside the walls of the Old City, in one of the most sensitive parts of east Jerusalem.

The settlers say the homes are built on land that was owned by Jews prior to the 1948 war surrounding Israel's creation. Israeli law allows Jews to reclaim such property, a right denied to Palestinians who lost lands and homes in the same conflict. □

## Their town wiped out by a mudslide, people of La Reina mourn

**EL ENCANTO, Honduras (AP)** — Dr. Claudia Lazo is asked: How many of your patients are depressed?

"All of them," she answers. "All of them. All of them. All of them. All of them. All of them."

The patients at her modest rural health center suffer from solastalgia — sadness and pain provoked by the loss of their environment. They've lost their physical homes and their psychological well-being.

On the night of Nov. 24, 2020, their town La Reina was wiped from the face of the earth.

This story is part of a series, *After the Deluge*, produced with support from the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting.

Home to about 1,000 people, the town in western Honduras was hit by two powerful hurricanes within three weeks, natural disasters made far worse by local deforestation and climate change. La Reina was buried by a landslide. No one died. But seven months later, La Reina's people remain homeless, and adrift. They are alive,



From left, Marian Castron, 23; Maria Castron, 25; Jenny Castron, 19, and Omar Castron, 50, visit their home devastated by a landslide triggered by hurricanes Eta and Iota in the village of La Reina, Honduras, Friday, June 25, 2021.

but their place in the world is gone — the place where they lived, loved, dreamed, had children, grew coffee, corn and beans.

Here, they had invested their savings and money sent home from relatives in the United States, transforming a mountainside into a town of 300 homes. Nature has taken it all back.

Olga Ondina, 52, suffers from insomnia, unable to sleep in an unfamiliar house. "I wake up at midnight and try to go to my old bathroom, but it isn't there anymore," she says. She gathers red flowers from the site of the home where she raised her five children, to be displayed in the homes of relatives who

have taken her family in. "I realize I'm not at home, and I cry. My parents lived and died here, my children were born here. Today I came to cry."

Over the decades, Julio Villanueva Melgar, 70, raised a family and made a living in La Reina. Villanueva feels as if he's been hurled into a new and more hostile uni-

verse.

"One becomes crazy, disoriented," Villanueva says. "You don't fit in anymore."

Orlando Perdomo, muscular from working the land for much of his 56 years, sits and spends the afternoon with a group of friends alongside a lake born of the same rainfall and landslide that devoured his hometown.

"When the first cracks in the earth opened after Hurricane Mitch (in 1998), my father said the he wouldn't live to see it, but that we would see the town disappear, that the future would bring death," Perdomo recalls.

Lazo has treated nearly all of La Reina's people, and he's seen a lot of tears.

"They sit in front of me and I ask them, 'How are you?' They start to cry."

Their own actions are partly the cause of their predicament. For decades, the people of La Reina cut cedar and cinnamon trees from the highest slopes of surrounding mountains to expand their coffee plantations and get timber to build their homes. □

Associated Press

## Pakistani police say polio team attacked, policeman killed



A health worker collects data while another writes numbers on the wall of a house after administering a polio vaccine to children in a neighborhood of Lahore, Pakistan, Monday, Aug. 2, 2021.

Associated Press

By RIAZ KHAN

Associated Press

**PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)**

— Gunmen on Monday shot and killed a police officer assigned to protect a polio vaccination team in northwestern Pakistan, an official said. It was the third attack in two days on Paki-

stani policemen assigned to protect polio workers.

The deadly attack took place in the town of Kolachi in the Dera Ismail Khan district. Officer Dilawar Khan was on his motorcycle, heading to escort polio workers taking part in a nationwide campaign aimed

at making Pakistan a polio-free state.

The gunmen fled the scene and a police search is underway, according to Mohammad Aslam, a local police official.

Pakistani militants often target polio teams and police assigned to protect them, claiming the vaccination campaigns are a Western conspiracy to sterilize children.

Two attacks targeted police working with polio teams on Sunday. In Peshawar, the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, gunmen killed a policeman returning home after security duty with polio workers. And a roadside bomb went off near a police van escorting a polio vaccination team in the district of South Waziristan, wounding an officer. □

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# LOCAL



## New Covid restriction starting August 1, 2021

**ORANJESTAD - During a recent press conference held on the Prime Minister Evelyn Wever Croes and the ATA CEO Ronella Croes and Sharline Koolman of the DVG, provided an update of the current Covid situation in Aruba and also announced new regulations effective August 1, 2021.**

As of August 1, 2021, all travelers coming in from the United States require a negative test regardless if the visitor has been vaccinated or not. The United States is considered a high-risk country, just like the Netherlands and Colombia among others. The second change is the Covid insurance for visitors. This will be \$15 per visitor for the entire stay

in Aruba, while children under the age of 15 are included in their parent's Covid insurance.

The Prime Minister emphasized that despite positive cases increasing again, the Government will not introduce stricter restrictions for now and urges the community to be cautious.

The Prime Minister said that we should realize that we have a problem in Aruba. We have to sound the alarm immediately but will not shut down Aruba and lock everyone inside their homes. We have to be on alert that the virus is moving around and is here to cause damage. It is in our own hands whether it causes us harm or not. The situation at the hospital is stable. There

are currently ten patients hospitalized of which three are in the ICU. Covid is on the rise again and on Sunday, August 1, 2021, the active cases reached 479.

The cases have more than doubled over the week. This increase in cases is the reason for the Government to go into alert and be concerned. The daily average new cases are over 54 cases and the positivity rate is 25%. This is high compared to last week (July 26) when the active cases were 225.

The situation compared to Curaçao, has changed this week. Last week the new cases in Aruba were not so many, and in Curaçao, they reached a plateau. The situation in Curacao is now stabilizing, how-

ever, in Aruba, the number of new cases is still going up.

"This should make us realize that if we do not stop this development soon, we will end up similar to Curaçao with over 600 active cases which we do not need. The Government will not implement restrictions similar to what they did in March last year to protect the community. "We are here to tell the community how important it is to protect themselves and get vaccinated. If you can not or don't want to get vaccinated please protect yourself. It is your responsibility and your choice. We can not force anyone to vaccinate, but can only encourage the community to protect themselves".

## Attractions and Sightseeing locations in Aruba

**ORANJESTAD — There are enough sightseeing locations on the island to fill up a month-long vacation. Aruba's beaches are a big attraction, and although it's great to spend long days just relaxing on the beach and listening to the ocean, there are also plenty of opportunities to get to know Aruba's most attractive sights, historical and natural attractions, and museums. Check out these attractions you don't want to miss!**

### Blue Horses in Downtown, Oranjestad

This series of 8 sculptures were created by native Aruban artist Osaira Muyale. She named the project Paarden Baai, which translates to "Horse Bay". The statues were installed in 2015 and pay homage to the rich history of Aruba's horse trading industry. In the 17th Century Aruba was used by many countries (Europe, South America, Caribbean islands, and the Mediterranean) as a trading post. The most popular being cattle and horse trading. Horses were once the most important sources of livelihood for Aruba.

For 4 centuries the horse and cattle trade ran strong. At any given time Aruba was home to herds of thousands of horses that roamed the island. Aruba being the perfect trading post



encouraged an extremely diverse culture and is the reason almost all Arubans speak more than 1 or 2 languages.

Each of the 8 bright royal blue horses is unique and carries its own name and personality. Pictured above is the mare Sinforosa, but you can also find Saturnina, Escapia, Rosalina, Eufrosina, Ambrosio, Bonifacia, and Celestina. The sculptures embody strength, nobility, grace, beauty and freedom. They represent the historical moment where the horses jumped from the ship decks into the Caribbean and swam to the Aruban Bay.

When you visit Aruba be sure to explore downtown Oranjestad and try to find all 8!

### The Lourdes Grotto

Named in commemoration of the famous French religious landmark, was created under the guidance of a priest named "Erkamp" and parishioners in the year 1958. The grotto, a shrine built into the rocks is located in Seroe Preto, just off the main road to San Nicolas.

A statue of the Virgin Mary, weighing 700 kilos, was hoisted into place in the grotto. Every year, on February 11 (feast of Lady of Lourdes), a procession leaves from the St. Theresita church in San Nicolas to the grotto, where a mass is performed. The grotto is located road-

side and can be visited daily. Just make sure you park safely in the event you wish to stop for pictures at this location.

### Bubali Bird Sanctuary

Watch more than 80 species of migratory birds from the Bubali watch tower, overlooking their resting and breeding area. The observation tower allows birdwatchers to get a true birds' eye view. Migratory birds, looking for lush vegetation in which to nest, find an oasis within the Bubali Bird Sanctuary. The nearby water treatment facility empties into two inter-connected man-made bird ponds. Birds that inhabit the sanctuary include herons, egrets, gulls, skimmers, coots, ducks and more. Located within walking distance of the Palm Beach resorts, the Bubali Bird Sanctuary offers some unique bird watching opportunities. You can't miss it as it is located just in front of the historical Old Dutch Windmill. Make sure to bring your camera as many of these birds will randomly fly by the observation tower giving a little show. This is a great place to bring kids for a unique and possibly once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be so close to the untamed.

The happiest island in the Caribbean is so much more than just sun, sand and sea.



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Article by Etnia Nativa

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**Archaeological Collection**

**Episode CXV 115**

**NOORD** - Our island experiences as never before an enormous challenges in keeping its cultural authenticity intact in fighting back neoliberal progressive incursions when it comes to the protection its historical architecture, archaeological sites and objects of tangible and intangible cultural heritage significance.



We at Etnia Nativa exclaim for conscious consideration and share awareness by showing its archaeological salvage collection of past destructions that otherwise have been lost forever. Objects belonging to different time periods of our island's prehistorical heritage, Paleolithic as well as the Neolithic era. There are great differences between one another. Nomadic Paleolithic trafficking between islands and the main land, who survived on hunting and gathering, while the Neolithic community that followed consisted also of sea going tribes, but dominating the art of ceramics while being an agro-sedentary society. The material legacy of our Paleolithic societies

includes human as well as animal boney materials, ivory, horns, works in stone, shells and possibly rock art. It is indicative that family groups where organized in matriarchal clans, sustaining themselves by hunting, fishing and gathering of fruits and shell fish. They followed the stars and where engaged in cul-

tural artistic ceremonial activities.

When we talk about Paleolithic people visited Aruba we should consider to imagine a time when hunting mega fauna was a way of life on main land South America today's Venezuela, going back at least 30.000 Yrs. People that came from the North

crossing Meso American and island hopping to reach here. The Neolithic or the New Stone era, was a term coined by J. Lubbock in 1865 to refer to the cultural stage that developed from around 10,000 BCE until 3,000 BCE. There is no doubt that the Neolithic was and is one of the most decisive stages in our long history.

The sedentary society of the Neolithic period builded neighbourhoods using branches and straw to cover the roofs of houses by placing a layer of mud on top of the straw to give it more consistency against the elements. Walls of dwelling used mud, straw and tree trunks. Also during the Neolithic period, they continued to make stone instruments and tools, but these where smoothly polished. As raw materials, flint and quartzite known as chert and granite will be used, and two new materials will appear: diabas and basalt.

The Neolithic period implied a gradual not sudden cultural change, it's divided into stages according to the level of sophistication achieved in agriculture, architecture and ceramics. □



To get to know more over Aruba's and its origins, its animals and culture, we highly recommend you to book your visit for our renowned cultural encounter session has been entertaining curious participants for decades. Mail us at [etnianativa03@gmail.com](mailto:etnianativa03@gmail.com) or WhatsApp 297 592 2702 to confirm your participation. Our facilities and activities take place close to high rise hotels.

# Expressions of appreciation for the Freewinds Volunteers continue to be displayed by citizens throughout Aruba

ORANJESTAD - A very long road to recovery was made significantly shorter by the selfless actions done by the Freewinds Volunteer Minis-

ters. Dedicating their time and efforts to the sole purpose of making Aruba one of the safest places on earth certainly did not go unno-

ticed by individuals and groups, businesses and sports teams, in short, people from all walks of life who continue to put out words of thanks to show their appreciation for the work done by the Freewinds Ship and her Volunteer Ministers.



And then there was the gas station attendant, who remarked: "What you do is great! Thank you very much, from my heart, for what you guys, the Freewinds Volunteers, have been doing! On behalf of all the population of Aruba, thank you very much!"

The Freewinds Volunteers fought a fourteen-month battle aimed to push the number of Covid-19 cases down and keep them down to a level where the borders could remain open allowing tourists to continue to arrive in large numbers, making it possible for business to rebound and sports activities to resume.

The Freewinds Volunteer Ministers have been receiving thanks wherever they go by those that have been assisted in staying safe. Prior to the end of the school year a primary school teacher exclaimed: "What you guys are doing is of great help and we needed help. We really, really appreciate what you have been doing. You helped the community so much, it's fantastic how you are giving back to the community. Thank you from all the teachers and students as well. Hallelujah to that! We want to let people know that the Freewinds was here. What you have done makes the teachers and parents feel better and calmer."

Whether it is being said in a few words by individuals or in a big way for all to see, all the messages have the same theme: that the help has been valuable and very appreciated. The people of Aruba are very grateful for the assistance that has been provided by the Freewinds and her Volunteer Ministers during the island's time of need.

While a facility manager at a large building complex said: "Viruses bring bad things but in this case they brought you guys, the Freewinds Volunteer Ministers and this is very positive. We take this kind of help openly! Thank you very much! The work that you have been doing is very much appreciated."

To find out how you can help to keep Covid-19 from spreading again visit the How to Stay Well Prevention Resource Center online at [www.scientology.org/staywell](http://www.scientology.org/staywell) where all the Stay Well videos and booklets can be seen and copies downloaded, free of charge. All of these materials are available in Spanish, Dutch, English as well as 18 more languages. To learn more about the Freewinds, watch Inside Scientology: The Freewinds on the Scientology Network. ([www.scientology.tv/series/inside-scientology/freewinds.html](http://www.scientology.tv/series/inside-scientology/freewinds.html))



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## 4 cash-raising pitfalls (and better options)

By **LIZ WESTON** of NerdWallet

If you've got more bills than money, the usual advice is to trim expenses and find additional income. But some ways of raising cash can be a lot more expensive than others. Here are four that should be avoided, if possible, and what to consider instead.

### BEWARE RAIDING A RETIREMENT PLAN

A big chunk of the money contributed to retirement plans leaks out as hardship withdrawals, cash-outs during job changes or loans that aren't repaid. A recent study for the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation estimated that every year 22% of the contributions made by people aged 50 or younger is prematurely withdrawn, mostly in cash-outs as people leave jobs.

But these premature withdrawals are usually expensive and can leave you with too little money in retirement. You typically must pay penalties and income taxes on the distributions, plus you give up all the future tax-deferred compounding that money could have earned.

You may have other options. If you're still employed, you could borrow from your 401(k) or halt

retirement plan contributions temporarily to free up money. If you have a Roth IRA, you can withdraw an amount equal to your contributions without owing taxes or penalties.

If you can't avoid a costly withdrawal, you can minimize the damage by taking out only what you need and leaving the rest to grow. For example, if you're leaving your job you could roll your 401(k) balance into an IRA and take only what you need from the IRA. That could prevent having to cash out the whole account.

### DON'T SKIP HEALTH INSURANCE

You may be healthy now, but you're just one bad accident or illness away from catastrophic medical bills. If you don't have access to health insurance through work, check the Affordable Care Act exchanges at HealthCare.gov. Premiums have been lowered for most people this year and coverage can be free for many, including people who get unemployment benefits this year.

An analysis by the nonpartisan health care think tank KFF found that the number of people who qualify for subsidies increased 20% as a result of the American Rescue Plan Act passed

in March, and 4 out of 10 uninsured people would qualify for a free or nearly free plan.

You also can lower premiums by opting for a high-deductible plan. That means paying thousands of dollars out of pocket if you get sick or injured, but at least you won't face the kind of five- or six-figure bills that could bankrupt you.

### BEWARE HIGH-COST LOANS

Among the most expensive ways to borrow are payday loans, car title loans and loans that don't require a credit check. High-cost loans make it easy to slip into a cycle of debt, where you can't make the payments and are forced to borrow again. Car title loans put your vehicle at risk of being seized for non-payment.

These alternatives may not be as quick or convenient, but they're often better for your financial health:

- If you need help paying bills, start by checking 211.org, a clearinghouse of government and charitable resources.

- If you can't pay a loan, ask the lender about forbearance and other hardship options.

- If you have a credit card, consider a cash advance. These typically incur double-digit interest rates, but



This undated file photo provided by NerdWallet shows Liz Weston, a columnist for the personal finance website. (NerdWallet via Associated Press)

high-cost loans typically have triple-digit rates.

- If you're employed, you can ask your employer for a paycheck advance or emergency loan.

Another option if you're employed: payday advance apps such as Earnin, Dave or Brigit. Be careful, however, because the fees can make these loans as expensive as payday loans, and trap you in a similar cycle of debt if you come to rely on them.

### DON'T STIFF THE IRS

If you can't pay your tax bill, it can be tempting not to file a return. But failing to file carries much higher penalties than failing to pay, says CPA Neal Stern, a member of the American

Institute of CPAs' Financial Literacy Commission. In addition, there is no statute of limitations on audits when you fail to file. The IRS can come after you years or decades later.

The IRS has payment plans that allow you to pay your bill over time. You also could charge a tax bill to a credit card or consider getting a personal loan to pay what you owe, Stern says.

Ignoring the situation is no solution. The IRS has automated processes that match up forms like W-2 and 1099 to tax returns, and if something is missing it can quickly result in a computer-generated discrepancy notice or an audit, Stern says. □

## Square to buy installment payment firm Afterpay in \$29B deal

By **ALEX VEIGA**

Digital payments company Square Inc. says it has agreed to acquire Afterpay, which provides a "buy now, pay later" option for merchants, in an all-stock deal valued at about \$29 billion.

Square allows retailers to process credit card transactions using devices that plug into tablets or smartphones. The San Francisco-based company said Sunday it plans to integrate Afterpay into its services, enabling merchants to offer customers the option to pay for goods later without relying on a credit card. Afterpay users would be able to manage

their installment payments directly in Square's cash app.

"Square and Afterpay have a shared purpose," Square CEO Jack Dorsey said in a statement.

Some 70 million people use Square's cash app. As of June 30, Afterpay was serving more than 16 million users and nearly 100,000 merchants, including major retailers, the company said.

Installment plans are popular with retailers because they encourage customers to spend more money. And they enable customers with insufficient funds or credit at the time of purchase to walk out of

a store with the item they want. Payments are made in multiple installments over time, without interest — unless customers are late, in which case additional fees or interest may kick in.

"Afterpay is deeply committed to helping people spend responsibly without incurring service fees for those who pay on time," the companies said in a joint press release announcing the transaction. Square said it agreed to buy all of the Australian company's shares. Afterpay shareholders will get 0.375 shares of Square Class A common stock for each share of Afterpay,



In this Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2020, file photo, Twitter and Square CEO Jack Dorsey appears on a screen as he speaks remotely during a hearing before the Senate Commerce Committee on Capitol Hill, in Washington.

Associated Press

a 31% premium above its closing price Friday.

The transaction is expected to close in early 2022. □

**CROSSWORD**

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 47 Beach bits

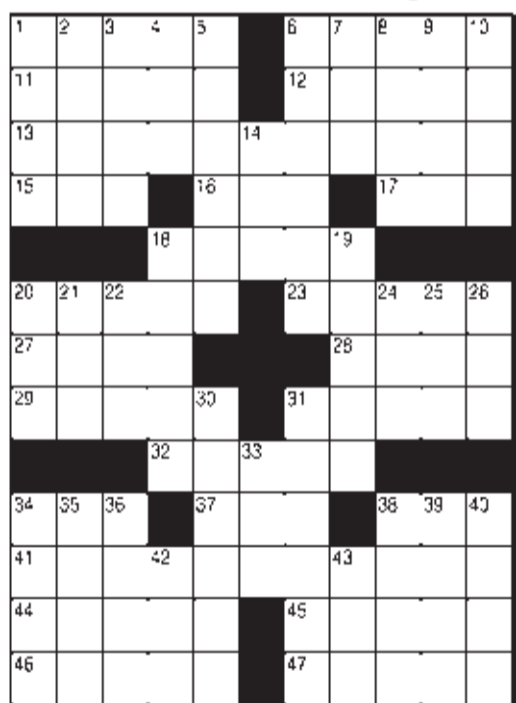
- 1 Pansy part
- 6 Burning crime
- 11 Entertain
- 12 Turning tool
- 13 Parts of some phones
- 15 Inquire
- 16 Vaccine base
- 17 Poker prize
- 18 Car parts
- 20 Cook's wear
- 23 Lathered up
- 27 Cornfield pest
- 28 Put together
- 29 Locker room need
- 31 Store for the future
- 32 Purple hue
- 34 Maple flow
- 37 Acquire
- 38 Letter after sigma
- 41 They bat to the same side as they stand
- 44 Worried
- 45 Like Poe tales
- 46 Highways

**DOWN**

- 1 Mama's mate
- 2 Flightless birds
- 3 Walrus feature
- 4 Fire remnant
- 5 James of the NBA
- 6 Church sights
- 7 Maze runner
- 8 Halt
- 9 Cry of distress
- 10 High home
- 14 One, for Juan
- 18 Wooden rod
- 19 Cashew family tree
- 20 Play division
- 21 Old hand
- 22 Join the crew
- 24 Week part
- 25 Runner on snow
- 26 Longing
- 30 Christmas decorations
- 31 Coffee bar orders
- 33 Maui souvenir
- 34 Rigging support
- 35 Car
- 36 Entreaty
- 38 Shore flier
- 39 Like a desert
- 40 Calls on
- 42 Young man
- 43 Earl Grey, e.g.



Yesterday's answer



8-3

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

8-3

**CRYPTOQUOTE**

ZTVAV'D OUZTXOF HAUOF

HXZT NUL ZTVAV'D B RUZ

HAUOF HXZT ZTV HUARP NUL

RXWV XO JTXD JURKVA

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: CONSISTENCY IN REGARD TO OPINIONS IS THE SLOW POISON OF INTELLECTUAL LIFE. — UNKNOWN



This image provided by Warner Bros. Pictures shows David Dastmalchian, from left, John Cena, Idris Elba and Daniela Melchior in a scene from "The Suicide Squad."

Associated Press

**In 'The Suicide Squad,' an anti-Captain America romp**

By JAKE COYLE

One little article separates James Gunn's "The Suicide Squad" from David Ayer's "Suicide Squad." But, oh, what a difference a word makes.

Just five years after the trainwreck that prompted Warner Bros. to retool its DC Comics universe, James Gunn's nearly wholesale redo exists in an entirely different movie galaxy. "The Suicide Squad" may go down as one of the greatest, and quickest, do-overs in blockbusterdom.

Like Gunn's two "Guardians of the Galaxy" movies, "The Suicide Squad" is a chaotic, freewheeling inversion of much of what's expected in a comic book movie. Here, heroes die (a lot of them). Most aren't really heroes, either. Some aren't even human. But they've been sprung from prison for a kamikaze mission on behalf of the U.S. government. In this motliest of crews, no one has anything like a sleek shield or a clean caped suit.

Gunn came to "The Suicide Squad" (which opens Aug. 5 in theaters and on HBO Max) in a brief window opened by social-media scandal. Disney fired him from Marvel for some old, dug-up tweets, only to, after the protests

of his "Guardians" cast, be rehired to direct "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3". But in the interim, Warner and D.C. poached the writer-director, one of the few filmmakers in the genre with the nerve and talent to not exactly buck the system but deconstruct it, and turn superhero myth into slapstick farce.

Gunn has said he was initially offered the chance to direct a Superman movie, but it's telling that he turned down the crown jewel of DC for the likes of Polka-Dot Man, Ratcatcher 2 (who communicates with rodents) and Nanaue, a cartoonish walking shark in jams.

But if most mainline superhero movies ultimately exalt American ideals like justice, individualism and might, Gunn goes exactly the other way. "The Suicide Squad" is the anti-Superman, a madcap rejoinder to Captain America. In Gunn's hands, the America superhero is grotesque, brutal and ridiculous. Like Gunn's previous movies, "The Suicide Squad" boasts wall-to-wall needle drops (the Pixies' "Hey," Louis Armstrong's "I Ain't Got Nobody"), yet leaves out maybe the most fitting song, Childish Gambino's "This Is America." Early on in "The Suicide

Squad" we get a sense that the mission is dubious. Amanda Waller (Viola Davis) summons a bunch of prisoners for Task Force X program. Exactly who are to be our main characters and who's head is about to sliced like a melon takes some sorting out. But in a clown-car of a superhero movie the most central protagonist is Idris Elba's Bloodsport, a mercenary only coaxed into joining the team when Waller threatens prison time or worse for his teenage daughter (Storm Reid, very good).

With him are Ratcatcher 2 (Daniela Melchior, a stand-out), a laconic, warm-hearted Millennial with a very polite pet rat named Sebastian on her shoulder. The skills of Polka-Dot Man (David Dastmalchian) are initially hard to decipher, but the shy, stunted Abner proves surprisingly capable, even if he, himself, sheepishly apologizes for having such a "flamboyant" power.

There is also John Cena's Peacemaker, easily the most jingoist of the bunch, a kind of Captain America knockoff. Just what each squad member feels about their home country and its role in international backwaters is prominently in play in "The Suicide Squad." □

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Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.  
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668  
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# Kris Bryant homers in SF debut, Giants beat Astros 5-3

By The Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Kris Bryant homered in his Giants debut, a two-out solo shot in the third inning, and San Francisco beat the Houston Astros 5-3 on Sunday.

Darin Ruf also homered for the Giants. They won two of three in the interleague matchup of division leaders and have the best record in the majors at 66-39.

Acquired in a trade from the Chicago Cubs for two minor league prospects just minutes before Friday's deadline, Bryant was greeted by chants of "KB!, KB!" when he trotted onto the field for pregame warmups and received a standing ovation before his first at-bat. The four-time All-Star was cheered again after striking out swinging.

Those cheers got louder after Bryant crushed an 0-1 pitch from Luis García (7-6) into the left field stands for his 19th home run this season.

Logan Webb (5-3) allowed two runs in six innings to stay unbeaten since May 5. Jake McGee pitched the ninth for his 23rd save.

Yuli Gurriel homered for Houston.

## **YANKEES 3, MARLINS 1**

**MIAMI (AP)** — Anthony Rizzo continued his remarkable debut with the Yankees with another key hit and New York completed a three-game sweep of Miami.

The partisan New York crowd in Miami finally got to cheer when the Yankees had an eighth-inning rally highlighted by RBI singles from Rizzo and Aaron Judge.

Rizzo, who went to high school in the Miami area, singled home Brett Gardner for the tying run in his third game with the Yankees. The first baseman was acquired in a trade from the Chicago Cubs at the trade deadline and hit a homer in each of his first two games with New York before Sunday's clutch at-bat.

Joely Rodriguez (2-3) got the win in relief, and Aroldis Chapman retired the side in the ninth for his 22nd save. Anthony Bass (1-6)



San Francisco Giants' Kris Bryant, left, hits a home run in front of Houston Astros' Martin Maldonado during the third inning of a baseball game in San Francisco, Sunday, Aug. 1, 2021.

Associated Press

took the loss.

## **RAYS 3, RED SOX 2**

**ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)** — Shane McClellan went six strong innings, Brandon Lowe homered and AL East-leading Tampa beat Boston for a three-game sweep.

McClellan (5-4) allowed one run and four hits, helping the Rays take a 1 1/2-game lead over Boston.

Hunter Renfroe homered for the Red Sox. They have lost a season-high four in a row and five of six.

Kiké Hernández and Rafael Devers had consecutive two-out singles in the ninth off Matt Wisler, who then retired J.D. Martinez on a short fly to right for his first save.

Nick Pivetta (8-5) was the loser.

## **REDS 7, METS 1**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Rookie Max Schrock went 5 for 5 with a home run while giving All-Star Joey Votto a break, leading fellow newcomer Vladimir Gutierrez and Cincinnati past New York.

Making his first major league start at first base, the 26-year-old Schrock — who's also made a relief pitching appearance this year — scored three runs and drove in two.

Votto got a rest from manager David Bell a day after his seven-game home run streak came to an end.

Gutierrez (6-3) allowed

three hits in seven innings. His only blemish was a sixth-inning home run to Jeff McNeil.

In his second game with his new team, Javier Baez went hitless in four at-bats for the NL East-leading Mets. Marcus Stroman (7-10) was the loser.

## **DODGERS 13, DIAMONDBACKS 0**

**PHOENIX (AP)** — Albert Pujols doubled home three runs to cap a five-run second inning, Mookie Betts homered in his return from the injured list and Los Angeles hammered Arizona. Betts, playing second base, returned to the lineup and had two hits, including his 15th homer of the season in the ninth. Julio Urias (13-3) pitched five scoreless innings.

Pujols' liner down the left-field line came with two outs on a full-count pitch, the 70th and last of the day from Caleb Smith (3-8). The Diamondbacks lefty lasted just 1 2/3 innings, giving up five runs while walking five and striking out three. Justin Turner hit his 20th homer.

## **WHITE SOX 2, INDIANS 1**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Brian Goodwin homered with one out in the ninth inning to lift Chicago past Cleveland.

Goodwin hit a 3-1 pitch from Nick Wittgren (2-4) over the wall in right.

Liam Hendriks (5-2) allowed

just one hit in the ninth to complete a scoreless six-inning stint by the Chicago bullpen. Chicago won two of three in the series to extend its AL Central lead to nine games.

Myles Straw homered for the Indians.

## **BREWERS 2, BRAVES 1**

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Willy Adames hit an early homer off Charlie Morton, Brett Anderson pitched 5 2/3 strong innings and Milwaukee beat Atlanta.

The NL Central-leading Brewers moved 20 games over .500 for the second time this season. They improved to 34-19 away from Milwaukee and have won 13 of 17 road series this season.

Anderson improved to 4-5. Josh Hader, in his first save opportunity since July 8, retired the side in order in the ninth to earn his 22nd save in 23 chances. Morton dropped to 10-4.

## **BLUE JAYS 5, ROYALS 1**

**TORONTO (AP)** — José Berríos pitched six shutout innings in his Toronto debut and the Blue Jays completed a three-game sweep in their first series north of the border since 2019, beating Kansas City.

Marcus Semien and Santiago Espinal homered to back Toronto's big-name newcomer. Acquired from Minnesota at the trade deadline Friday for two minor leaguers, Berríos (8-5)

allowed five hits.

Trevor Richards retired all four batters he faced and Tim Mayza got the last five outs as Toronto won for the fifth time in six games.

The Blue Jays returned to Canada on Friday after having played the entire 2020 season and the first half of 2021 in both Buffalo and Dunedin, Florida, because of border restrictions. Brad Keller (7-10) was the loser.

## **TIGERS 6, ORIOLES 2**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Eric Haase hit a two-run double in a three-run first inning and Detroit beat Baltimore.

Detroit earned a split of the four-game series, improving to 30-24 at home this season. The Tigers tied a major league record with 59 home losses in 2019, baseball's most recent full season.

Erasmus Ramirez (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings to pick up his first major league win since Sept. 3, 2018, when he beat the Orioles as a member of the Seattle Mariners.

Spenser Watkins (2-2) was the loser.

## **PHILLIES 15, PIRATES 4**

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Kyle Gibson pitched into the seventh inning in his Philadelphia debut and got plenty of support to help the Phillies rout Pittsburgh.

J.T. Realmuto had five of the Phillies' 20 hits, with two doubles and four RBIs. Bryce Harper hit three of Philadelphia's nine doubles and Jean Segura doubled twice and drove in three runs.

The Phillies got Gibson (7-3) and pitcher Ian Kennedy from Texas in a deadline deal Friday for rookie right-hander Spencer Howard and two other pitching prospects.

Mitch Keller (3-8) was the loser. Michael Perez homered for the Pirates.

## **CARDINALS 7, TWINS 3**

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — Adam Wainwright threw seven effective innings and rookie Edmundo Sosa homered to help St. Louis beat Minnesota.

Wainwright (9-6) allowed three runs and six hits in an 85-pitch stint. □

# U.S. women lose in soccer, win in volleyball, basketball

By JOSH DUBOW

**TOKYO (AP)** — The quest for gold medals is on track for the U.S. women's basketball and volleyball teams after finishing at the top of their groups in pool play. The U.S. women's soccer team can't say the same. Jessie Fleming scored on a penalty kick in the 74th minute and Canada earned a 1-0 semifinal victory over the United States in the Olympic women's soccer competition on Monday. Canada goes on to face Sweden in the gold medal match, while the U.S. will play Australia for the bronze. Sweden beat Australia 1-0 in the other semifinal.

It is the second straight Olympics that the United States has been knocked out of contention for the gold medal match.

"I think this is my first loss ever to Canada," American star Megan Rapinoe said. "It sucks not to be able to compete for a gold medal, which is what we wanted. Not a great performance, either. That's the most frustrating thing."

The Americans were bounced from the 2016 Games by Sweden in the quarterfinals. The U.S. team goes on to play in the bronze medal match in Kashima on Thursday. Canada had not won against the United States since 2001.

In basketball, A'ja Wilson scored 22 points and Breanna Stewart added 17 to help the U.S. beat France 93-82 in their final pool play match.

The win was the 52nd in a row for the U.S. going back to the bronze medal game of the 1992 Olympics. The U.S. went undefeated in group play and advanced to the quarterfinals. The Americans (3-0) haven't lost a game in group play since women's basketball was added to the Olympics in 1976.

"It wasn't a must win, but we always want to win," Stewart said. "To have that momentum going into the quarterfinals, this is where we start to peak."

While the U.S. women's



United States players embrace after being defeated 1-0 by Canada during a women's semifinal soccer match at the 2020 Summer Olympics, Monday, Aug. 2, 2021, in Kashima, Japan.

Associated Press

basketball team has dominated at the Olympics, the women's volleyball team is seeking its first gold medal ever.

The Americans are off to a good start after beating Italy in five sets Monday to win their pool despite losing a second starter to a rolled ankle. Jordyn Poulter joined Jordan Thompson on the sidelines, but the U.S. still improved to 4-1.

"They really stayed together," coach Karch Kiraly said. "I look back and our substitute box is getting very lonely back there. There's only three or four players there. So it's getting to be a bit of an adventure. But our team played with great heart and played together."

#### BILES ON THE BEAM

Simone Biles is returning to competition in Tokyo. The 2016 Olympic champion will compete in the balance beam finals on Tuesday, a little over a week after stepping away from the meet to focus on her mental health.

The 24-year-old Biles won bronze on beam in Rio de Janeiro five years ago.

She removed herself from the team final on July 27 after a shaky performance on vault during the first rotation. She watched from the sidelines as her three American teammates completed the meet with-

out her; the U.S. took silver behind the team known as the Russian Olympic Committee.

Biles later said she was dealing with issues surrounding air awareness, referred to as "the twisties" in her sport. Biles qualified for all five individual event finals but took herself out of four of them.

Elsewhere in gymnastics, American gymnast Jade Carey won the gold medal on floor exercise, Shin Jeahwan of South Korea won the men's vault, and Liu Yang of China won the men's still rings.

#### MILESTONE MOMENT

Transgender weightlifter Laurel Hubbard made her mark by competing in the women's weightlifting but couldn't complete a lift.

Hubbard is not the only transgender athlete competing at the Tokyo Games, but she has been the focus of attention as a medal contender in weightlifting. The New Zealander overbalanced on her opening weight of 120 kilograms, taking the bar behind her shoulders.

Hubbard's second effort of 125 kilograms was ruled invalid on a majority decision by the referees. The third attempt was almost a repeat of the first, ruling Hubbard out of medal contention in the women's over-87-kilogram division.

#### AMAZING RECOVERY

Sifan Hassan of the Netherlands started her bid to win three medals at the Tokyo Games by earning gold in the 5,000 meters.

Hassan pulled away with about 250 meters to go and cruised to the win in a time of 14 minutes, 36.79 seconds. She beat Hellen Obiri of Kenya by nearly two seconds. Gudaf Tsegay of Ethiopia was third. Earlier in the day, the 28-year-old Hassan had a scare when she fell on the final lap in the opening round of the 1,500. She picked herself up, caught the pack and won her heat to advance. She's also entered in the 10,000 meters. Hassan won the 1,500 and 10,000 at the 2019 world championships.

#### GO FOR GOLD

Jasmine Camacho-Quinn of Puerto Rico has won gold in the women's 100-meter hurdles, powering ahead of American Keni Harrison. Camacho-Quinn finished in 12.37 seconds for a .15 second win over the world-record holder, Harrison. Jamaica's Megan Tapper finished third.

"This was what I wanted for this year. I wanted to be a gold medalist," Camacho-Quinn said.

Miltiadis Tentoglou of Greece has edged Cuba's Juan Miguel Echevarria for the men's long jump gold

medal with a winning jump on the last attempt.

Discus thrower Valarie Allman won the first track and field gold medal for the U.S. Allman's winning throw went 68.98 meters (226 feet, 3 inches) to hold off Kristin Pudenz of Germany in a competition that was delayed by rain.

#### WALK IT OFF

Yuki Yanagita tied it with an RBI grounder off Scott McGough in the ninth inning, Takuya Kai hit a walkoff single against Edwin Jackson in the 10th and Japan beat the United States 7-6 to reach the Olympic semifinals.

Japan (3-0) will play South Korea (3-1) on Wednesday night for a spot in the final.

The U.S. (2-1) fell into the loser's bracket of the double-elimination second round. To reach this weekend's final, it must beat the winner of Tuesday's elimination game between the Dominican Republic (1-2) and Israel (1-3), and then the Japan-South Korea loser.

#### MOVING ON

April Ross and Alix Klineman have advanced to the quarterfinals of the Olympic beach volleyball tournament.

The American "A-Team" beat Cuba 21-17, 21-15. The win came a day after two other U.S. teams were ousted in the first knockout round.

Next up for the Americans is one defending gold medalist Laura Ludwig of Germany and her partner Maggie Kozuch.

Jake Gibb and substitute teammate Tri Bourne lost to Germany in the beach volleyball round of 16, ending their shotgun partnership after just two weeks.

Bourne was a last-minute swap after Gibb's original partner, Taylor Crabb, tested positive for COVID-19 when he arrived in Japan. The pair had just three practices before their first match, but they made it out of pool play with a 2-1 record.

Julius Thole and Clemens Wickler beat Bourne and Gibb 17-21, 21-15, 15-11 to advance to the quarterfinals.

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